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MONTANA LABOR MARKET REVIEW

THIRD QUARTER 1978

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MONTANA
LABOR MARKET REVIEW

Published in December 1978
For Third Quarter 1978

STATE OF MONTANA

THOMAS L. JUDGE, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
DAVID E. FULLER, COMMISSIONER

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
FRED BARRETT, ADMINISTRATOR

A Labor Market Information Publication
PRODUCED BY THE RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS SECTION
in cooperation with
EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION,
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

1. Civilian Labor Force - the number of persons 16 years and older, defined as employed or unemployed, excluding members of the Armed Forces.

2. Employed - those persons who work for pay or profit during a week or, as unpaid family workers, work 15 hours or more during a week. Also included as employed are those who, although not working, had some job attachment and were not looking for work, including persons temporarily absent from a job due to illness, bad weather, vacation, or labor-management dispute, whether or not they were in a pay status during their time off.

3. Unemployment - the number of persons who, for an entire week, did not work at all, were able to work and available for work, and (1) were looking for work or (2) would have looked for work except that (a) they were waiting to return to a job from which they had been laid off, or (b) they were waiting to report to a new wage and salary job scheduled to start within the following 30 days (and were not in school during the week).

4. Unemployment Rate - the number of unemployed expressed as a percent of the civilian labor force.

5. Residence Data - a count of employment by where people live.

6. Establishment Data - a count of employment by where people work.

7. Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Series - to facilitate the evaluation of the labor force, recurrent yearly movements have been isolated and removed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics seasonal factor method.

8. Composite Index - an aggregate of six leading indicators. The indicators used are: Manufacturing - Employment, Average Weekly Hours, total Accessions and Layoffs; Average Weekly Initial Claims; and statewide Building Permits. A reverse trend was used for Layoffs and Average Weekly Initial Claims. This composite index is in no manner or form comparable to the United States composite index as published in "Business Conditions Digest", U. S. Department of Commerce.

9. Real Spendable Average Weekly Earnings of Private Nonagricultural Production Workers - represents the earnings of a hypothetical individual after deductions for State Income, Federal Income and Social Security taxes, and adjustment for change in purchasing power since 1967. This individual is assumed to be sole support for a family of four, earn the average weekly gross earnings of production workers in Montana's private nonagricultural industries, and take standard deductions on State and Federal income taxes. Taxes were computed using standard tax tables, and purchasing power was adjusted by deflating Spendable Earnings based on the national Consumer Price Index.

10. WIN - Work Incentive Program for Aid to Dependent Children recipients.

11. CETA - Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1974.

12. CETA-CEP - Concentrated Employment Program funded under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act.

13. SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area as determined by Office of Management and Budget. Must have a central city with population of 50,000 or more.

14. LMA - Labor Market Area as determined by the Montana Employment Security Division consists of a central city or cities with population of less than 50,000, and the economically integrated geographical area surrounding it.

SECTION I

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION:

STATE OF MONTANA

INTRODUCTION

The State of Montana is the fourth largest in the nation, having an area of 147,138 square miles. It is bordered on the north by Canada; on the west by Idaho; on the south by Wyoming; and on the east by North Dakota and South Dakota.

The state is predominantly rural, with an estimated population of 760,000 persons in 1977. The most significant export industry in the state continues to be agriculture; with cattle, sheep, and wheat production being the mainstays of the economic sector. In addition to ranching and farming; mining, lumber and wood products manufacturing, tourism, and government provide the bulk of economic support within Montana.

HIGHLIGHTS

The Montana economy continued to grow during the third quarter of 1978, as the civilian labor force reached its annual peak for the year at 381,200 during July. All of the labor force statistics show improvement throughout the quarter when compared to 1977 levels. Employment peaked at 358,800 in July a 16,400 gain from last July's similar figure. The jobless rate also showed considerable positive movement in the quarter, as the rate declined from 6.6% in June to 5.9% in July, 5.2% in August, and 4.7% in September.

The seasonal upturn in the economy showed gains in the construction, agriculture, and trade industries. The weather accounted for most of these increases as the season for building, harvesting, and tourism peaked. The long labor dispute involving a major airline was settled but losses to the tourist trade were significant by the time of settlement in August.

The pending bankruptcy of a transcontinental railroad was the major negative economic news during the quarter. The current situation is rather tentative but various scenarios involving complete shutdown of the western extension, sale of a portion of the line, employee ownership, or federal financing have been presented. An informational hearing was recently held but the only firm conclusion observed was that the line cannot continue its current debt ridden operation.

New businesses in the state are running 12% ahead of last year's tally and all industrial sectors except mining show year-to-date increases in formations. The third quarter statistic indicates 1,384 new firms as compared to 1,236 during the third quarter of 1977. The increase appears to be spread throughout the state, as only the Great Falls SMSA is behind last year's figure.

STATEWIDE MONTANA

Labor Force, Employment, Unemployment CPS Data

(In Thousands)

Year	Civilian Labor Force Average	Employment Average	Unemployment Average	Average Unemployment Rate
1972	291.2	277.3	13.9	4.8%
1973	303.2	288.6	14.6	4.8%
1974	318.6	301.9	16.7	5.2%
1975	322.6	302.0	20.6	6.4%
1976	332.0	312.0	20.0	6.1%
1977	343.0	321.0	22.0	6.4%

1978 Month	Civilian Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
January	332.1	305.2	26.9	8.1%
February	341.3	311.3	30.0	8.8%
March	350.6	321.6	29.0	8.3%
April	358.1	334.9	23.2	6.5%
May	361.7	341.1	20.6	5.7%
June	379.3	354.3	25.0	6.6%
July	381.2	358.8	22.4	5.9%
August	377.4	357.7	19.7	5.2%
September	365.4	348.3	17.1	4.7%

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The labor force statistics show continued positive movement during the third quarter. The unemployment rate shows notable improvement when compared to last year's similar statistic and the current national rates.

The civilian labor force for September is 2.7% larger than last September's, and employment has gained an even better 3.6%. The number of unemployed, on the other hand, is 11.9% smaller than last September's calculation. The improvements are notable but such trends must continue before any great significance can be attached to them.

EMPLOYMENT TRENDS IN
THE MAJOR INDUSTRIAL SECTORS

MONTANA AGRICULTURE

(In Thousands)

1978 Employment Agriculture

January	22.5	April	35.0	July	44.0
February	24.5	May	36.0	August	47.0
March	29.4	June	41.1	September	36.7

1977 Annual Average	34.7
Third Quarter 1977 Average	45.0
Third Quarter 1978 Average	42.6

1978 New Business Formations - Agriculture, Forestry, & Fisheries

3rd Quarter 1978	3rd Quarter 1977	Year-To-Date 1978	Year-To-Date 1977
74	48	280	209

The seasonal peak in agricultural employment was reached in August as 47,000 workers were engaged. After the harvest the level dropped to 36,700 during September and should continue to fall.

The number of persons employed is running consistently below last year's levels, as the third quarter averages verify an approximate 2,400 decrease from 1977 figures. This 5.4% drop is consistent with the second quarter drop of 5.6%.

The drop in employment, while notable, is certainly not an indicator of any demise in the industry, just a continued shift away from the use of labor. New businesses in the field show increases from last year in fact, quite sizable increases. All sectors of the industry reported a good harvest for the year but variable prices and the impact of imports continued to plague the markets.

MONTANA MANUFACTURING

(In Thousands)

1978 Employment Manufacturing

January	23.5	April	23.2	July	24.6
February	23.5	May	23.8	August	25.1
March	23.4	June	24.2	September	25.1

1977 Annual Average	24.2
Third Quarter 1977 Average	24.5
Third Quarter 1978 Average	24.9

1978 New Business Formations - Manufacturing

3rd Quarter 1978	3rd Quarter 1977	Year-To-Date 1978	1977
73	54	204	166

Stability, with slight expansion, continued to keynote Montana's small manufacturing sector during 1978. Manufacturing employment levels are slighty higher than last years similar figures but the growth appears to be negligible as last quarter was down slightly.

The division of the manufacturing sector showing the greatest growth since last year is lumber and wood products. The other divisions are extremely close to last year's employment levels.

Manufacturing in Montana is a relatively small sector of the economy, and certainly not the dominent industry it is nationally. The Montana lumber and wood products sector is very susceptible to national changes, so the recent jump in interest rates may eventually have an impact.

MONTANA MINING

(In Thousands)

1978 Employment Mining

January	6.4	April	6.3	July	7.2
February	6.4	May	6.7	August	7.3
March	6.4	June	6.8	September	7.2

1977 Annual Average	6.1
Third Quarter 1977 Average	5.4
Third Quarter 1978 Average	7.2

1978 New Business Formations - Mining

3rd Quarter 1978	3rd Quarter 1977	Year-To-Date 1978	Year-To-Date 1977
44	27	88	105

The mining industry in Montana showed stable growth during the third quarter of 1978. The figures seem to show a substantial increase over last year but this was due to labor dispute in the third quarter of 1977. The metal mining portion of the industry persists in showing growth over last year while other divisions are stable.

Mining is the only industrial sector that shows fewer new business formations this year than last. New business firms are down 16.2% from 1977 in year-to-date totals, but the third quarter showed a 6.3% gain over 1977's second quarter. The variation in these statistics is perhaps caused by oil exploration and coal mining ventures being formed.

MONTANA CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION

(In Thousands)

1978 Employment Contract Construction

January	13.2	April	15.8	July	17.5
February	13.3	May	16.0	August	17.7
March	13.4	June	16.6	September	17.5

1977 Annual Average 15.6
Third Quarter 1977 Average 16.1
Third Quarter 1978 Average 17.6

1978 New Business Formations - Contract Construction

3rd Quarter 1978	3rd Quarter 1977	Year-To-Date 1978	1977
250	253	774	685

The apex of employment in the construction industry was reached in the third quarter as an average of 17,600 persons were employed in the sector. Although September figures now indicate that some drops may occur the construction "season" appears to have been a good one.

The growth in the sector seems to center on the erection of offices, retail establishments, and housing rather than large heavy construction. Two notable large projects, the Colstrip units 3 and 4, and the Libby re-regulating dam, have been shutdown by court actions but construction employment continued unabated.

Some negative signs are beginning to surface that may foretell of a slowdown in the construction sector. Included in such factors are a decline in building permits, a rise in the interest rate, and a slowdown in the number of new construction firms being formed. General construction will suffer the most from any setback, so perhaps new large projects may be necessary to keep employment levels up.

MONTANA TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATION, AND PUBLIC UTILITIES

(In Thousands)

1978 Employment Transportation, Communication, and Public Utilities

January	20.8	April	20.8	July	21.9
February	20.8	May	21.4	August	22.2
March	20.7	June	21.5	September	22.2

1977 Annual Average	20.2
Third Quarter 1977 Average	20.4
Third Quarter 1978 Average	22.1

New Business Formations - Transportation, Communication, and Public Utilities

3rd Quarter 1978	3rd Quarter 1977	Year-To-Date 1978	Year-To-Date 1977
43	51	142	136

Steady growth in this sector continues as exhibited by statistics on employment and new business formations. The third quarter average shows a gain of 1,500 employees over last year's figures. New business statistics show the same stable upward movement.

For purposes of analysis this industrial sector is normally broken down into three subsectors, which are railroad transportation, transportation except railroad; and communication, gas, and electric service. By comparing and examining trends within each of these subsectors the relative impact of the movements can be better explained. At the present time all subsectors are showing improvement over 1977.

Railroad employment continues to show consistent gains over the past year. Coal shipping is apparently the growing portion of the railroad business. This subsector stands to lose some employees by 1980 if a transcontinental line shuts down its Montana line affecting 800 employees.

Communication, gas, and electric employment shows the same pattern of consistent stable growth. The energy situation and related developments are probably causing these upward shifts.

MONTANA TRADE

(In Thousands)

1978 Employment Trade

January	65.5	April	68.0	July	71.8
February	65.3	May	68.4	August	72.9
March	66.5	June	68.5	September	72.7

1977 Annual Average	66.3
Third Quarter 1977 Average	70.0
Third Quarter 1978 Average	72.5

New Business Firms - Trade

3rd Quarter 1978	3rd Quarter 1977	Year-To-Date 1978	Year-To-Date 1977
335	354	1,039	952

The wholesale and retail trade sector continued to exhibit an approximate 3.6% growth rate in employment during the third quarter of 1978. This rate is the same as last quarter indicating the stable steady nature of the upswing. The growth appears to be evenly divided between the retail and wholesale, subsectors, but the divisions of the retail area are expanding at varying rates. Eating and drinking places show little expansion in employment, while losses may even be indicated in the building materials, farm equipment, furniture, and miscellaneous. The long range prediction for the sector is, however, for continued excellent growth patterns.

MONTANA FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE

(In Thousands)

1978 Employment Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate

January	11.7	April	11.7	July	12.0
February	11.8	May	11.9	August	12.2
March	11.7	June	11.9	September	12.1

1977 Annual Average	11.4
Third Quarter 1977 Average	11.5
Third Quarter 1978 Average	12.1

New Business Formation - Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate

3rd Quarter 1978	3rd Quarter 1977	Year-To-Date 1978	Year-To-Date 1977
111	104	365	335

The employment levels in the finance, insurance, and real estate sector continue to exhibit strong growth. The third quarter levels are about 5.2% above last year's figures. The increase is consistent with last quarter's similar comparison and can be assumed to be consistent throughout the year as seasonality has little effect on this sector.

Some concern should be noted in the F.I.R.E. sector over the rising interest rates and possible slowdown in construction activity. The subsectors are all dependent on construction and as such are directly influenced by trends in construction. This uncertainty certainly clouds the future for the F.I.R.E. sector.

MONTANA SERVICES

(In Thousands)

1978 Employment Services

January	48.0	April	48.7	July	48.7
February	48.1	May	148.3	August	48.5
March	48.4	June	248.2	September	48.0

1977 Annual Average	49.3
Third Quarter 1977 Average	52.4
Third Quarter 1978 Average	48.4

New Business Formations - Services

3rd Quarter 1978	3rd Quarter 1977	Year-To-Date 1978	Year-To-Date 1977
419	324	1,191	1,036

Employment in the service sector is running less than last year's level, in the same pattern as the second quarter. Services usually mirror the changes in the trade sector but in this particular instance they are moving in opposite directions.

Comparisons of 1977 and 1978 data indicate that the various subdivisions of the sector are reacting differently. The losses in employment seem to be in the other category, hotels/lodging, and medical/health services decreases, while the personal service area is growing. The 48,000 people employed in the services sector in September of 1978 is an overall 3.3% drop from last September's 51,300 figure.

New business firms are, however, being formed at a rapid rate in this sector. Both the third quarter and year-to-date counts show this growth. These statistics may bring some optimism to an otherwise adverse report on service employment.

MONTANA GOVERNMENT

(In Thousands)

1978 Employment Government

January	72.9	April	73.9	July	75.3
February	72.9	May	74.1	August	68.6
March	73.3	June	73.2	September	71.6

1977 Annual Average	70.6
Third Quarter 1977 Average	72.0
Third Quarter 1978 Average	71.8

Government employees numbered 71,600 in September of 1978 a 1.3% decrease from last September's level. A comparison of third quarter averages show a similar 1.0% drop in employment, perhaps signaling an end to the persistent growth in government in recent years.

An analysis of the subdivisions of the sector shows that only one area, other local government, shows an increase over last September's level. Federal, state, college/university, and local education all are at lower levels. Another interesting observation is that about 42% of government employment in the state is education related.

The current "tax revolt" will certainly have some effect on government employment levels, but the impact may vary in relation to the type of cuts to be made. The determination of what services to cut may affect employment in many different manners, as some services are more labor intensive than others.

LABOR TURNOVER

LABOR TURNOVER

The labor turnover rate is a measure of the number of workers per 100 employees, who move into (accessions), and out of (separations), positions of employment each month. For purposes of analysis, labor turnover rates are applied only to manufacturing and mining industries with their subsectors of durable goods, primary metals maufacturing, non-durable goods and metal mining.

Accessions include the addition of temporary or permanent workers to the payroll either as new hires or rehires. Conversely, separations include the termination of workers through quits, layoffs, and other forms such as discharge, disability, or retirement.

Average turnover statistics for the third quarter of 1978 show consistency with the 1977 averages in almost all categories. The quit rate is up and although layoffs are down the quits have raised total separations. Almost all of the industrial breakouts show a similar trend so it is not confined to a particular industry. The quit rate is probably influenced by the return of students to school and movement of migrant workers to other regions as the crops were harvested. Both metal mining and primary metal industries show improving separation statistics indicating that the layoffs in the non-ferrous mining and manufacturing industries have ceased for the moment.

LABOR TURNOVER

(Per 100 Employees)

Manufacturing

	Total Accessions	New Hires	Total Separations	Quits	Layoffs
1977 Average	3.5	2.9	3.3	1.7	0.9
July	3.5	2.6	2.6	1.6	0.3
August	3.5	2.9	3.7	2.5	0.6
September	3.4	3.0	5.2	4.2	0.3
3rd Qtr Average	3.5	2.8	3.8	2.8	0.4

Durable Goods

1977 Average	3.2	2.5	3.0	1.5	0.7
July	3.7	2.5	2.5	1.6	0.3
August	3.4	2.9	3.3	2.1	0.5
September	2.7	2.4	4.7	3.8	0.2
3rd Qtr Average	3.3	2.6	3.5	2.5	0.3

Primary Metal Industries

1977 Average	2.9	1.8	2.9	0.9	1.1
July	5.3	1.4	1.3	0.8	0.2
August	2.2	1.8	1.7	1.1	0.1
September	1.5	1.1	4.9	3.2	0.5
3rd Qtr Average	3.0	1.4	2.6	1.7	0.3

Non-Durable Goods

1977 Average	4.0	3.6	4.0	2.1	1.2
July	3.1	2.8	3.0	1.6	0.2
August	3.8	3.1	4.4	3.2	0.7
September	4.8	4.3	6.0	4.9	0.6
3rd Qtr Average	3.9	3.4	4.5	3.2	0.5

Mining

1977 Average	2.2	1.2	3.7	2.2	0.7
July	6.0	5.3	3.0	1.0	1.0
August	4.9	2.3	4.5	3.1	0.4
September	5.3	3.4	6.4	5.4	0.6
3rd Qtr Average	5.4	3.7	4.6	3.2	0.7

Metal Mining

1977 Average	2.0	0.1	3.2	0.2	1.6
July	0.9	0.2	3.5	0.1	0.1
August	1.1	*	2.3	0.4	0.3
September	1.5	0.2	3.2	0.6	1.7
3rd Qtr Average	1.2	0.2	3.0	0.4	0.7

* *Less than .05*

Prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

HOURS AND EARNINGS

HOURS AND EARNINGS

Hours and earnings data for the third quarter of 1978 showed little advancement during the quarter with downward and upward movements noted in different months. A high for the year of $217.49 was noted in July for gross average weekly earnings but it then dropped to $214.68 in August before climbing back to $215.27 in September.

Real spendable figures indicate, however, that the wage earner has actually been losing wages during the third quarter. The calculation for real spendable wages dropped to $90.81 in September after levels of $92.67 for July and $91.19 for August. The major portion of the losses in due to inflation as reflected in the real spendable calculation by the Consumer Price Index (C.P.I.).

MONTANA

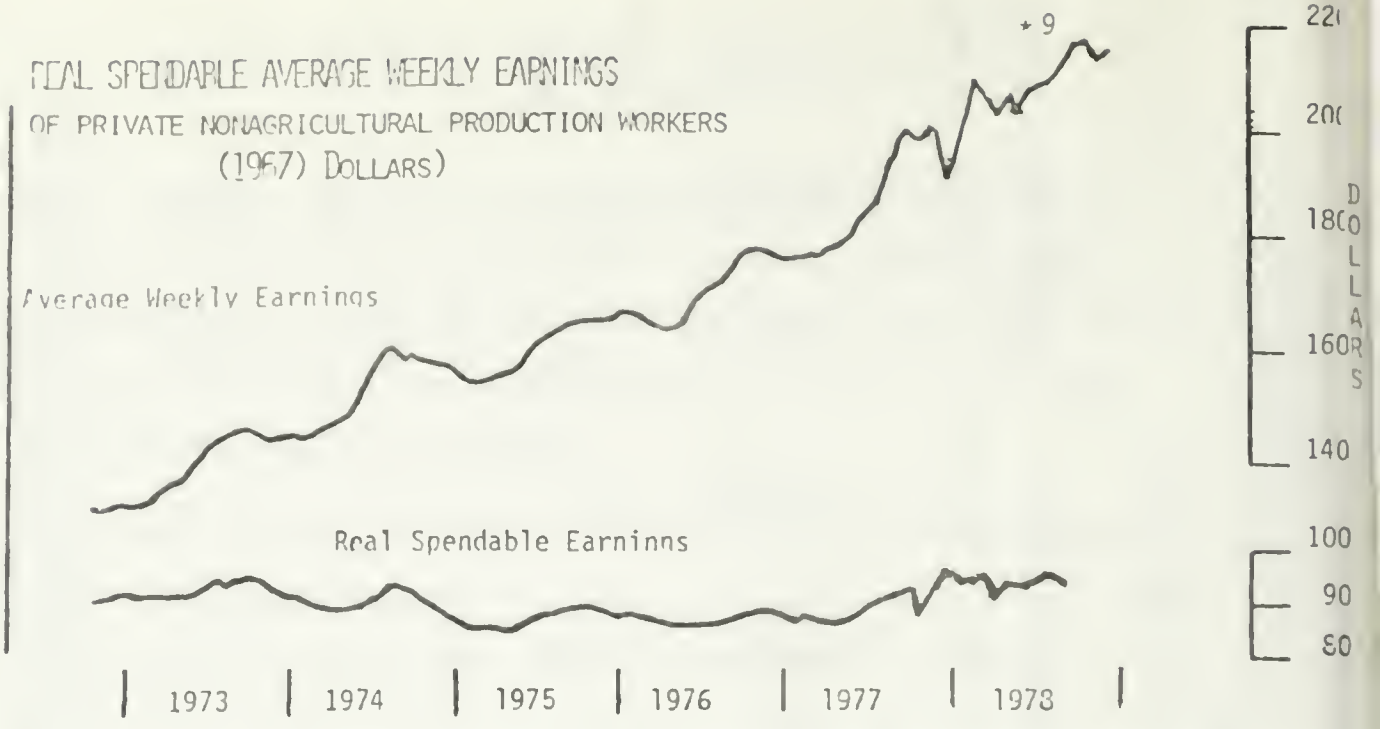
HOURS AND EARNINGS SERIES BY MONTHS

Average Hours and Earnings in Private, Nonagricultural Industies 1978 (1)

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	July	August	September	July	August	September	July	August	September
TOTAL PRIVATE	217.49	214.68	215.28	36.8	35.9	36.0	5.91	5.98	5.98
MANUFACTURING	330.03	338.35	339.07	41.1	42.4	41.3	8.03	7.98	8.21
Durable Goods	325.58	334.22	335.78	40.8	42.2	40.9	7.98	7.92	8.21
Primary Metal Industries	328.10	323.02	327.60	37.2	36.5	36.0	8.82	8.85	9.10
Nondurable Goods	342.27	350.83	347.68	42.1	43.1	42.4	8.13	8.14	8.20
Food and Kindred Products	280.90	284.20	293.19	44.8	45.4	46.1	6.27	6.26	6.36
MINING	377.31	379.10	382.39	41.6	42.5	42.3	9.07	8.92	9.04
Metal Mining	420.39	379.84	379.84	39.4	35.8	35.8	10.67	10.61	10.61
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	373.11	367.80	359.00	35.1	34.6	33.9	10.63	10.63	10.59
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	304.29	311.53	311.53	40.9	41.1	41.1	7.44	7.58	7.58
Communications, Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	294.53	300.71	301.15	43.7	43.9	43.9	6.74	6.85	6.86
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	176.17	165.50	170.00	36.1	33.1	34.0	4.88	5.00	5.00
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	148.73	148.30	146.43	36.1	36.8	36.7	4.12	4.03	3.99
SERVICES	135.14	134.40	134.73	33.7	33.6	33.6	4.01	4.00	4.01

(1) *Based on reports from cooperating establishments, and covers both full and part-time production and related workers who worked during or received pay for any part of the weekly pay period including the 12th of each month. Figures are average of gross earnings including overtime and premium pay. Selected Industries series began January 1950; Total Private Sector series began January 1969.*

Prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.



	SEPT. 1978	AUG. 1978	SEPT. 1977
Gross Average Weekly Earnings	215.27	214.68	197.89
Taxes Withheld	34.46	34.38	29.21
Spendable Earnings	180.81	180.30	168.67
Adjustment for Price Changes Since 1967	90.00	89.11	77.00
Real Spendable Earnings in 1967 Dollars	90.81	91.19	91.67

	Average Weekly Earnings	Real Spendable Earnings
1977		
July	190.97	89.63
Aug.	200.28	92.96
Sep.	197.89	91.67
Oct.	202.65	93.29
Nov.	190.85	88.23
Dec.	210.37	95.44
1978		
Jan.	205.19	92.67
Feb.	209.10	93.63
Mar.	203.28	90.71
Apr.	207.77	91.58
May	208.58	91.04
June	216.58	93.03
July	217.49	92.67
Aug.	214.68	91.19
Sep.	215.27	90.81
Oct.		
Nov.		
Dec.		

REAL SPENDABLE EARNINGS

Inflation continued to have an adverse effect on real spendable wages during September. Although gross wages were up slightly for the month the adjustment to the C.P.I. caused the real spendable figure to fall to 90.81. Taxes accounted for a very small portion of the loss and can be expected to rise as gross earnings do, but persistent inflation was counteracting any possible gains in earnings.

An annual comparison to last September's figures show even more revealing results. Although gross wages have grown by 8.7% the real spendable figure shows a slight decrease. Taxes have increased proportionately with gross wages over the period but clearly the major culprit in the loss of real wages is inflation.

* *Indicates last month of plotted data.* *p: Preliminary*

1/ Average weekly earnings of total private nonagricultural production workers.

2/ Real spendable average weekly earnings of private nonagricultural production workers.

COMPOSITE INDEX

COMPOSITE INDEX OF SIX ECONOMIC INDICATORS*

Composite Index of
SIX ECONOMIC INDICATORS
1972 = 100

1977	
January	98.2
February	99.2
March	99.0
April	99.1
May	97.1
June	97.5
July	95.8
August	97.1
September	98.1
October	98.1
November	98.0
December	98.5
1978	
January	100.1
February	100.2
March	103.1
April	103.8
May	102.4
June	101.7
July	101.3
August	101.8
September	102.6
October	
November	
December	

MONTANA'S COMPOSITE INDEX

The composite index of six leading economic indicators advanced slightly again in September. The index is now at 102.6, up from August's 101.8 level. This is a reversal of the trend that was apparent from April to July when the index moved downward, but it is not enough of an upward trend to be any basis for a prediction. Some promise could be denoted if the index continues to rise during the remainder of the year, but it is still currently well below the high level reached in April.

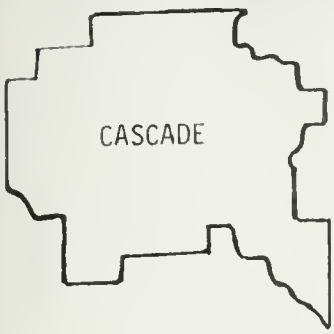
* *Employment, Average Weekly Hours, Total Accessions, and Layoffs in Manufacturing; Building Permits, and Average Weekly Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims.*

** *Indicates last month of plotted data.*

SECTION II
LABOR MARKET INFORMATION
MONTANA'S SMSA'S*

* SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area

GREAT FALLS SMSA (Cascade County)



Cascade County is Montana's second largest in population with an estimated 83,600 persons living there in 1976, a 2.2% increase since 1970. Great Falls is the major city in the county. The city of Great Falls is located in one of the primary wheat producing areas of the country and as such agriculture and related food processing industries are important to the SMSA's economy. Another large employer is the federal government through its air defense complex headquartered at Malmstrom Air Force Base. Primary metal processing is losing its importance as an area industry as reductions in production and employment occur due to competition from imports. Great Falls is also a center of trade, both wholesale and retail, for a large portion of the state.

Great Falls Labor Force

	Civilian Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
1977 Annual Average	34.8	32.7	2.1	*6.0%*
July 1978	35.1	32.7	2.4	*6.9%*
August 1978	34.2	32.0	2.2	*6.5%*
September 1978	33.5	31.4	2.1	*6.3%*

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The jobless rate for the Great Falls area continues to run high, much above the statewide rate. The third quarter is usually the best part of the year for employment but the statistics show little improvement in the area.

The civilian labor force and employment both dropped considerably during the period. The civilian labor force for September is at 33,500; a drop of 2,900 since June. Employment decreased by 2,100 during the same period to a September figure of 31,400. The labor force statistics do not indicate any good news for the area, with a shrinking labor force and a rising unemployment rate.

GREAT FALLS SMSA (Cascade County) (Cont.)

Great Falls Employment by Industry *(In Thousands)*

	July	August	September	% change from September 1977
Civilian Labor Force	35.1	34.2	33.5	-2.1%
Employment	32.7	32.0	31.4	-2.0%
Agriculture	1.7	1.9	1.4	- .1%
Unemployment	2.4	2.2	2.1	- .1%
Non-Farm Wage & Salary	30.1	29.9	29.6	-1.0%
Manufacturing	1.7	1.7	1.7	- .1%
Contract Construction	2.1	2.0	2.0	- .2%
Transportation, Public Utilities	1.9	1.9	1.9	.1%
Trade	10.4	10.2	10.2	0
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	1.9	1.9	1.9	0
Services & Mining	6.3	6.3	6.3	- .2%
Government	6.0	5.9	5.6	- .6%

New Business Firms

3rd Quarter		Year-to-Date	
1978	1977	1978	1977
102	240	356	409

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

New business formations for the SMSA are down dramatically from last year to tally 356 so far, with the third quarter formations at only 43% of last year's similar statistic. This seems to indicate some slowing of the growth especially in retail and service establishments. Building permits also show a decline adding to the slowdown in the area.

Agriculture, the mainstay of the area, had a generally good harvest season despite some severe but widely scattered hail losses. The wet weather noted early in the growing season resulted in excellent crops.

The air defense installation in North Central Montana plays a vital role in the area's economy. Reports released during the quarter stated the complex was responsible for 7,360 individuals employment, of which 1,916 are civilians. The missile upgrade project in progress was shutdown for mechanical corrections during the period but full

operations have resumed, with the project due for midwinter completion. A recent news release indicated that a large contract to upgrade missile transporter roads may be let soon.

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1976								
January	29.5	27.2	26.4	.8	2.3	*7.9*	*7.9*	*
February	29.7	27.5	26.6	.9	2.2	*7.3*	*7.4*	*
March	30.8	28.5	27.4	1.1	2.3	*7.3*	*7.2*	*
April	30.8	28.9	27.5	1.4	1.9	*6.2*	*5.9*	*
May	31.1	29.3	27.9	1.4	1.8	*5.6*	*5.0*	*
June	32.4	30.0	28.4	1.6	2.4	*7.5*	*6.2*	*
July	32.6	30.5	28.7	1.8	2.1	*6.6*	*5.5*	*
August	32.8	30.8	28.9	1.9	2.0	*6.0*	*5.3*	*
September	31.8	30.1	28.6	1.5	1.7	*5.3*	*4.9*	*
October	31.9	30.1	28.8	1.3	1.8	*5.6*	*5.1*	*
November	32.0	30.1	29.0	1.1	1.9	*6.0*	*5.9*	*
December	30.2	28.3	27.3	1.0	1.9	*6.3*	*6.5*	*
1976 Avg.	31.3	29.3	28.0	1.3	2.0	*6.5*	*6.1*	*
1977								
January	31.8	29.7	28.8	.9	2.1	*6.6*	*7.9*	*
February	32.9	30.9	29.9	1.0	2.0	*6.1*	*7.9*	*
March	33.5	31.3	30.1	1.2	2.2	*6.5*	*7.7*	*
April	34.5	32.6	31.1	1.5	1.9	*5.4*	*6.7*	*
May	34.7	32.8	31.3	1.5	1.9	*5.5*	*6.1*	*
June	36.0	33.9	32.2	1.7	2.1	*5.9*	*6.3*	*
July	35.8	33.8	32.0	1.8	2.0	*5.6*	*6.0*	.8
August	36.4	34.2	32.2	2.0	2.2	*6.1*	*5.7*	*
September	35.6	33.4	31.9	1.5	2.2	*6.2*	*5.5*	*
October	36.0	33.8	32.5	1.3	2.2	*6.1*	*5.4*	.4
November	35.4	33.4	32.3	1.1	2.0	*5.7*	*6.0*	*
December	35.0	32.8	31.8	1.0	2.2	*6.2*	*6.1*	*
1977 Avg.	34.8	32.7	31.3	1.4	2.1	*6.0*	*6.4*	.1
1978								
January	35.3	32.6	31.7	.9	2.7	*7.8*	*8.1*	*
February	36.2	32.8	31.8	1.0	3.4	*9.3*	*8.8*	*
March	35.3	32.4	31.2	1.2	2.9	*8.0*	*8.3*	*
April	35.0	32.9	31.5	1.4	2.1	*6.1*	*6.5*	*
May	35.1	33.0	31.6	1.4	2.1	*6.0*	*5.7*	*
June	36.4	33.5	31.9	1.6	2.9	*7.9*	*6.6*	*
July	35.1	32.7	31.0	1.7	2.4	*6.8*	*5.9*	*
August	34.2	32.0	30.1	1.9	2.2	*6.5*	*5.2*	*
September	33.5	31.4	30.0	1.4	2.1	*6.3*	*4.7*	*
October	*32.8*	*30.8*	*29.6*	*1.2*	*2.0*	*6.1*	*4.6.*	*
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. *Series began January 1970.*

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment. *Revised to 1977 Benchmarks.*

* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

BILLINGS SMSA (Yellowstone County)

The Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area is composed of the geographic area of Yellowstone County. The county had a population of 87,367 in 1970 and estimates place 1976 population at 99,600 for a 14% increase. Billings is the major city in the county accounting for most of the population. The city is rapidly becoming a major regional center for business in Montana, Wyoming, and portions of the Dakotas. Wholesale and retail trade account for a large portion of the industry, but the diversified economy also includes sizable service, government, transportation, and manufacturing segments.

Billings Labor Force

	Civilian Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
1977 Annual Average	52.4	50.0	2.4	4.6%
July 1978	52.2	49.8	2.4	4.5%
August 1978	51.0	48.8	2.2	4.2%
September 1978	50.5	48.6	1.9	3.8%

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The SMSA's labor force figures indicate the consistent nature of the Billings economy. Seasonal declines account for the drops from July to September but the diversified economy is keeping employment up in most non-agricultural sectors. The civilian labor force does show some contraction from last year but not enough to cause problems.

The unemployment statistics are showing continued improvement throughout the third quarter as the number of unemployed decreased by 500 from July's level of 2,400 to September's 1,900. The jobless rate for September is a very good 3.8% down from 4.5% in July.

BILLING SMSA (Yellowstone County) (Cont.)

Billings Employment by Industry *(In Thousands)*

	July	August	September	% change from September 1977
Civilian Labor Force	52.2	51.0	50.5	-3.4%
Employment	49.8	48.8	48.6	-2.9%
Agriculture	2.0	2.2	1.7	- .1%
Unemployment	2.4	2.2	1.9	- .5%
Non-Farm Wage & Salary (Total)	44.3	44.0	44.0	- .9%
Manufacturing	3.6	3.6	3.6	.1%
Contract Construction	3.4	3.4	3.3	0
Transportation, Public Utilities	3.8	3.8	3.8	0
Trade (Wholesale & Retail)	14.8	14.9	14.8	- .2%
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	2.2	2.2	2.2	.1%
Services & Mining	8.7	8.7	8.7	.3%
Government	7.8	7.4	7.6	-1.2%

New Business Formations

3rd Quarter		Year-to-Date	
1978	1977	1978	1977
237	216	670	573

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The third quarter is the usual high point for economic activity in the area and 1978 was no exception. The seasonal industries such as agriculture and contract construction had good seasons. The harvests are now all completed with sugar beets being the last.

Energy related developments continue to impact the Billings' SMSA economy. Coal development is occurring in many areas of Montana and Wyoming with Billings rapidly becoming the center for the industry. Continued expansion of coal mining is expected. On another front, the oil refineries have been guaranteed deliveries of Canadian crude oil through 1981 by a recent Canadian government decision. The oil is crucial to the continued operation of the facilities until a means of transporting Alaskan oil from the West Coast is determined.

BILLINGS SMSA (Yellowstone County) (Cont.)

The growth sector in Billings still appears to be the trade industry, both wholesale and retail. The new business tally is running ahead of last year with many of the firms being retail or service establishments. Reports also indicate that Billings is becoming a wholesale center for a large multi-state region.

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1976								
January	44.6	41.8	40.8	1.0	2.8	6.2	7.9	*
February	44.7	42.3	41.2	1.1	2.4	5.4	7.4	*
March	45.3	42.8	41.5	1.3	2.5	5.6	7.2	*
April	47.1	45.0	43.4	1.6	2.1	4.5	5.9	*
May	46.6	44.9	43.2	1.7	1.7	3.7	5.0	*
June	48.6	46.0	44.1	1.9	2.6	5.4	6.2	*
July	49.4	47.0	44.9	2.1	2.4	4.8	5.5	*
August	49.0	46.8	44.6	2.2	2.2	4.4	5.3	*
September	49.6	47.7	46.0	1.7	1.9	3.9	4.9	*
October	48.9	47.0	45.5	1.5	1.9	3.9	5.1	*
November	49.0	46.9	45.6	1.3	2.1	4.3	5.9	*
December	49.4	46.9	45.8	1.1	2.5	5.0	6.5	*
1976 Avg.	47.7	45.4	43.9	1.5	2.3	4.8	6.1	*
1977								
January	48.9	46.3	45.3	1.0	2.6	5.4	7.9	*
February	50.6	47.8	46.7	1.1	2.8	5.5	7.9	*
March	51.2	48.5	47.1	1.4	2.7	5.2	7.7	*
April	52.1	49.8	48.1	1.7	2.3	4.4	6.7	*
May	52.0	49.7	47.9	1.8	2.3	4.5	6.1	*
June	52.7	50.4	48.4	2.0	2.3	4.4	6.3	*
July	53.1	50.9	48.8	2.1	2.2	4.1	6.0	.1
August	54.3	51.9	49.6	2.3	2.4	4.4	5.7	.1
September	53.9	51.5	49.7	1.8	2.4	4.4	5.5	.1
October	53.6	51.3	49.8	1.5	2.3	4.3	5.4	.1
November	53.8	51.5	50.2	1.3	2.3	4.2	6.0	.1
December	52.9	50.6	49.5	1.1	2.3	4.3	6.1	.1
1977 Avg.	52.4	50.0	48.4	1.6	2.4	4.6	6.4	*
1978								
January	51.9	48.8	47.8	1.0	3.1	6.0	8.1	.1
February	53.8	50.2	49.1	1.1	3.6	6.7	8.8	.1
March	52.6	49.1	47.8	1.3	3.5	6.7	8.3	*
April	52.7	50.3	48.7	1.6	2.4	4.6	6.5	*
May	52.6	50.3	48.6	1.7	2.3	4.3	5.7	*
June	52.6	49.8	47.9	1.9	2.8	5.2	6.6	*
July	52.2	49.8	47.8	2.0	2.4	4.5	5.9	*
August	51.0	48.8	46.6	2.2	2.2	4.2	5.2	*
September	50.5	48.6	46.9	1.7	1.9	3.8	4.7	*
October	*50.3*	*48.5*	*47.1*	*1.4*	*1.8*	*3.6*	*4.6*	*
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. *Series began January 1970.*

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment. *Revised to 1977 Benchmarks.*

* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

SECTION III
LABOR MARKET INFORMATION
MONTANA LMA'S*

* LMA - Labor Market Area

ANACONDA - BUTTE LMA

The Anaconda - Butte Labor Market Area is composed of the six southwestern counties of Montana. A 1976 population estimate tallies 79,600 persons in the area. Anaconda and Butte are the biggest cities in the area, with sizable population centers also at Deer Lodge and Dillon. Mining and manufacturing are the primary industries in the Anaconda - Butte region while the rest of the LMA is mostly agriculturally oriented. State government is also a large employer with institutional facilities located in Warm Springs, Galen, and Deer Lodge, and state supported colleges at Butte and Dillon. A large federally funded energy research project is also having an economic impact on Butte.

Anaconda - Butte Labor Force *(In Thousands)*

	Civilian Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
1977 Annual Average	33.6	30.9	2.7	8.2%
July 1978	37.9	34.7	3.2	8.6%
August 1978	36.0	33.3	2.7	7.5%
September 1978	34.6	32.3	2.3	6.8%

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

Despite some severe employment losses due to trade related reductions in the non-ferrous metal mining and processing industries, the LMA shows growth in all areas of the labor force. September's figures indicate a 4.9% increase in the force over last September, while employment shows a 5.6% jump in the same period.

The unemployment rate is running lower than last year but still is consistently above the statewide figure. The number of unemployed persons has, however, dropped by 900 since July to a September level of 2,300. The labor force statistics for the LMA show surprising strength, but unemployment problems continue to plague the area.

ANACONDA - BUTTE LMA (Cont.)

New Business Formations

3rd Quarter		Year-to-Date	
1978	1977	1978	1977
104	70	292	256

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The construction season was a busy one throughout the area, especially for housing units. Projects were announced in Butte for an expansion of a shopping mall, a new motel convention center, and an uptown restaurant. Public works projects in the Butte area accounted for much employment during the summer. The Dillon area noted construction of retail facilities in addition to numerous housing units.

New business formations for the LMA are up for the quarter and the year with only Deer Lodge County showing decreases from last year. Butte (Silver Bow County) in particular had 53% more businesses started in the third quarter of 1978 than in the same period in 1977.

A possible shutdown of a transcontinental railroad may have impact in the Deer Lodge area where many employees are located. The line is going bankrupt, but it appears that the Western Montana portion of the line may be sold to another carrier.

The area's economy seems to be doing well and in a much more diversified pattern than in the past. The cutbacks in the metal mining and smelting industries have at least moderated with some hopes for even a reversal in trends. Agriculture noted a good year throughout the LMA although commodity prices have had some impacts. The energy research facility at Butte seems assured of continued funding and some expansion. The outlook for the LMA is optomistic although some negative factors like a high unemployment rate still exist.

BOZEMAN LMA

The Bozeman Labor Market Area consists of the three county area of Meagher, Park, and Gallatin Counties. Bozeman is the largest city in the LMA, and a large portion of the area is being served by Livingston. The estimated 1976 population is 52,200 for the three counties. Agriculture is the primary industry in the area, but recreational activities such as skiing, hunting and hiking are helping the area's economy to expand. These pursuits have resulted in large gains in the retail and service sectors. The government sector remains a large employer due to the location of Montana State University at Bozeman. The proximity to MSU has also attracted some electronic and research oriented firms to Bozeman in recent years.

Bozeman Labor Force

(In Thousands)

	Civilian Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
1977 Annual Average	23.8	22.5	1.3	5.6%
July 1978	29.9	28.8	1.1	3.7%
August 1978	29.6	28.6	1.0	3.3%
September 1978	28.9	28.1	.8	3.0%

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The labor force statistics show an expanding economy in the Bozeman LMA. The September civilian labor force was at 28,900, an 18% increase over last September's figure. The 28,100 employed persons were 19.5% above last year's September tally.

The jobless rate for the area showed similar improvement during the third quarter dropping from 3.7% in July, to 3.3% in August, and 3.0% in September. The number of unemployed individuals is calculated to be 800 in September, a drop of 200 since the same month a year ago. Overall, the labor force statistics paint a bright picture of the Bozeman LMA's economic health.

BOZEMAN LMA (Cont.)

New Business Formations

3rd Quarter		Year-to-Date	
1978	1977	1978	1977
152	103	436	342

Economic Highlights:

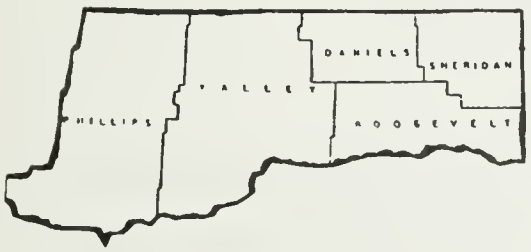
Construction activity in the LMA reached its peak during the third quarter. Work continued on a large expansion of a medical clinic and an insurance company headquarters, despite some delays due to a cement shortage. Housing erection continued but started to slow due to high interest rates. Building has commenced on a large regional shopping mall during the period and it should be completed by next spring or summer.

New business formations for the area continue well ahead of last year's pace; and the third quarter showed a 47.5% increase. New businesses are, of course, only one indicator but combined with the other positive signs they denote an optimistic outlook for Bozeman.

Retail and service industries have noted some declines as the summer tourist season ended, but this should pick up as the winter recreational activities begin. Establishments in the Bozeman area have also had their trade stimulated by the return of the college students to the University.

Agricultural interests report a good harvest season and a generally excellent year.

GLASGOW LMA



A five county area of Northeastern Montana makes up the Glasgow Labor Market Area. The estimated 1976 population of the area is 38,100. Agriculture is the dominant industry in the LMA with excellent wheat, oats, and barley producing land in the eastern portion,

while the western counties of Phillips and Valley are cattle grazing territory. Betonite mining and some oil and gas wells are in the area, but most other industry is trade or service, oriented toward serving the agricultural sector.

Glasgow Labor Force *(In Thousands)*

	Civilian Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
1977 Annual Average	16.8	15.8	1.0	*6.0%*
July 1978	17.8	16.9	.9	*5.2%*
August 1978	17.7	16.9	.8	*4.3%*
September 1978	16.5	15.9	.6	*3.7%*

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The Glasgow labor force shows mixed movements in the economy. The civilian labor force is shrinking as is the number of employed persons. The civilian labor force is at a 16,500 level for September, a 6.8% decrease from last September. Employment is at 15,900 a 5.4% drop from last year.

Concurrently the number of unemployed and the unemployment rate have improved considerably. The number of unemployed was 900, 800, and 600 respectively for the months of July, August, and September. These figures show consistent gains over last year's similar monthly totals of 1,200, 1,100, and 900 for the quarter. The jobless rate calculation of 3.7% is very low, even for September which is normally a low point in the year. Mixed implications can certainly be construed from statistics which show falling unemployment and a contracting labor force.

New Business Formations

3rd Quarter		Year-to-Date	
1978	1977	1978	1977
46	36	106	104

Economic Highlights:

The agricultural community has completed a generally good harvest season, planting, and field preparation activities continue. Some shipment problems occurred as the recurring boxcar shortage plagues the area, therefore most grain elevators are full.

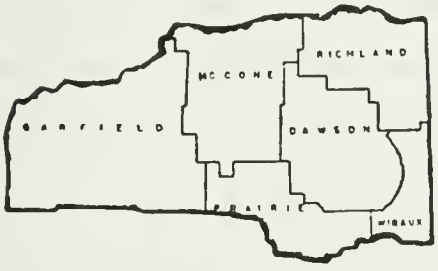
GLASGOW LMA Cont.)

New business starts show some gain during the three month period but the year-to-date total is about even with last year's similar figure. About the only conclusion that could be reached regarding new business formation is that they indicate the stable nature of growth in the LMA.

Construction reached a high point during the third quarter. Retail establishments and housing were underway throughout the area. Several public work projects were also in various stages. Building continues at two bentonite plants in Phillips and Valley Counties. A natural gas pipeline is being built in Phillips County.

The industrial park being developed at the Glasgow Air Force Base site released an optimistic report during the period, stating that it was in the black and several tenants were negotiating. The facility is probably a key to any large scale development in the area, as many past plans to develop the closed facility have not come to fruition.

GLENDIVE LMA



The Glendive LMA's six counties are basically an agrarian economy, but also supports large trade, service, and mining sectors. Oil and gas exploration is becoming an important sector in the area. The estimated 1976 population of the LMA is 29,200 with approximately 74% of this population located in Dawson and Richland Counties. The principal cities in the area are Glendive and Sidney, but even these communities depend heavily on the agricultural sector.

Glendive Labor Force *(In Thousands)*

	Civilian Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
1977 Annual Average	14.0	13.4	.5	3.9%
July 1978	15.5	15.0	.5	3.4%
August 1978	15.4	15.0	.4	2.8%
September 1978	14.5	14.2	.3	2.3%

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The labor force statistics for the LMA paint a picture of an extremely stable economy with little growth but also no relevant unemployment problems. The jobless rate for the area is consistently the lowest in the state and the third quarter has been no exception. The number of unemployed persons numbered 500 in July but has dropped to 300 by September.

The civilian labor force does show some signs of slight contraction as September's figure of 14,500 is 2.0% lower than last September's calculation. Employment is down a similar 1.4% over the same period and totaled 14,200 in September. The figures show an extremely stable labor market with no large projects causing rapid growth or subsequent decline and unemployment. The LMA is not among the most rapidly growing areas in the state, but more importantly it also does not have the resultant unemployment problems.

New Business Formations

3rd Quarter		Year-to-Date	
1978	1977	1978	1977
54	43	164	127

Economic Highlights:

New business starts are up about 29% for the year with January through September total of 164. Dawson and Richland Counties account for virtually all of the business formation with Richland's total in particular showing a substantial increase compared to last year. New businesses are but one indication of economic conditions and should be

GLENDIVE LMA (Cont.)

used in concert with other economic indicators.

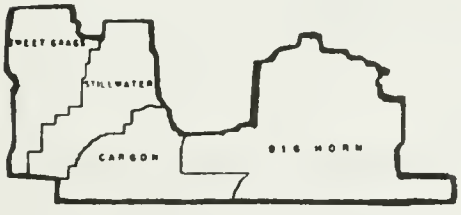
Agriculture, the basic industry of the area, had an excellent harvest season. The sugar beet harvest was recently completed and the processing facility in Sidney is in full production.

Construction activity abounds in the LMA, again concentrated in the Sidney and Glendive areas. Retail establishments, office complexes, and housing projects were underway in Sidney. Restaurants are nearing completion in both Glendive and Sidney.

Energy related developments are occurring in various parts of the area. A railroad firm has formed a resource concern for the potential development of lignite reserves near Circle. Oil exploration activity is continuing as weather permits with some demand for experienced workers.

Shortages of some workers, especially in certain skills, have existed in the Glendive area. The Job Service local offices have noted openings for medical personnel, mechanics, and restaurant workers.

HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA



This four county labor market area surrounds the southern portion of the Billings SMSA and is in actuality an extension in some ways of the Billings trade, however, distinct economies do exist in various portions of the LMA. The Hardin area has historically been a strong agricultural area but energy related developments are now beginning to take place in the coal fields. Red Lodge, once itself a coal mining area, is now an all season recreational center. Stillwater and Sweet Grass Counties remain basically agricultural areas. The estimated 1976 population of the LMA is 27,300.

Hardin-Red Lodge Labor Force *(In Thousands)*

	Civilian Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
1977 Annual Average	11.8	11.1	.7	5.8%
July 1978	13.1	12.5	.6	4.8%
August 1978	13.7	13.1	.6	4.2%
September 1978	12.3	11.9	.4	3.3%

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The civilian labor force for the Hardin-Red Lodge area is at about the same level as last year, with a lower number of unemployed persons counted. The civilian labor force for September is 12,300 compared to last September's 12,400 figure. Employment, however, is larger with a calculation of 11,900 this September compared to last year's 11,800

Unemployment both in the number of persons and rate has been improving. The number of unemployed is now 400 down from July's tally of 600, and 200 lower than last September's figure of 600. The jobless rate was 4.8%, 4.2%, and 3.3% respectively for July, August, and September all improvements over last year's similar figure.

New Business Formations

3rd Quarter		Year-to-Date	
1978	1977	1978	1977
27	26	112	83

Economic Highlights:

Agriculture reached its peak season for activity and employment during the quarter. Harvests were reported to be good for all crops in the area. The sugar beet harvest was the last major crop to be harvested and is completed. The future of sugar beets as an area crop may be determined by federal legistation regarding price supports and imports.

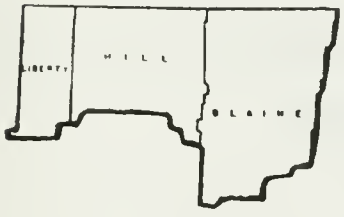
The tourist related trade and service sectors in Red Lodge reported a good summer season and are anticipating an excellent winter season. The ski area has added snow-

making equipment guaranteeing more reliable conditions for the upcoming season. This should in turn bring more people into the area to ski.

Coal development continues to have an impact on Big Horn County. Energy firms and related support concerns are locating in Hardin, the nearest town to some of the coal fields. Leasing decisions by the Crow Indian Tribe could have additional energy impacts on the area.

New business formations for the area are up for the year, although the third quarter totals are close to last year's similar period. The new firms are spread throughout the area, with all four counties showing gains.

HAVRE LMA



The Havre area; which includes Hill, Blaine, and Liberty Counties; could best be described as an agricultural area. Grains are the main crops with wheat, oats, and barley in abundance. Cattle are also raised in large numbers in Blaine County. Havre is the main commercial center in the area, with a railroad line as the other large employer. Some government employment is also noted at Northern Montana College in Havre. The area is estimated to have 1976 population of 28,000 persons.

Havre Labor Force *(In Thousands)*

	Civilian Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
1977 Annual Average	12.8	12.1	.7	*5.1%*
July 1978	13.6	12.9	.7	*5.2%*
August 1978	13.3	12.7	.6	*4.7%*
September 1978	12.5	12.1	.4	*3.6%*

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The jobless rate for the Havre area shows notable improvement during the period. The rate dropped to 3.6% in September, from July's 5.2% and August 4.7%. September is usually a low month for the unemployment rate but this even is an improvement over last September's 4.3%. The number of unemployed persons in the area is now 400, down from July and August tallies of 700 and 600.

The improving unemployment figures are, however, being caused by a contraction in the civilian labor force rather than expanding employment. The civilian labor force has dropped by 6.7% from last September, to a September 1978 level of 12,500. Employment dropped by a similar 5.5% or 700 people for the same period. Overall then the labor force statistics indicate a smaller labor force and economy for the LMA, but with a higher percentage of persons gainfully employed.

New Business Formations

3rd Quarter		Year-to-Date	
1978	1977	1978	1977
42	33	121	120

Economic Highlights:

Construction highlights the area economy for the third quarter. An $8 million shopping center is in various stages of construction in Havre. The complex will employ 500-600 people when completed. A project rebuilding the Tiber Dam spillway is Liberty County was to be completed during the summer. Offices, retail establishments and housing units are also underway in the area.

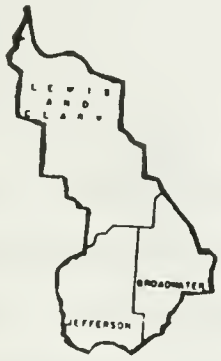
The harvest season was completed in the rich grain producing portions of the area during the period. Good harvests were reported, and activities still underway included seeding and fallowing.

Gas and oil activity continue in the LMA. Exploration drilling was in progress and a natural gas pipeline was being built. The passage of the national energy bill should spur even more exploration and development of natural gas reserves in the area.

HAVRE LMA (Cont.)

Trade activities appear to be about normal and new business formations show no radical movements, either up or down. In fact, the year-to-date total of new business is almost an exact duplicate of 1977's total at the same point in time. The LMA shows an economy that is stable in nature with few indications of notable trends up or down.

HELENA LMA



Government is the largest industry in the Helena Labor Market Area due to the location of the state capitol at Helena. Other supportive industries include quite substantial trade and service sectors, state headquarters for some private firms, and a metal processing facility at East Helena. The remainder of the area, excluding Helena, is basically agricultural excepting a state institution located at Boulder.

The estimated 1976 population of the area is 48,000.

Helena Labor Force *(In Thousands)*

	Civilian Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
1977 Annual Average	24.9	23.5	1.4	*5.7%*
July 1978	28.4	26.8	1.6	*5.5%*
August 1978	27.8	26.4	1.4	*4.9%*
September 1978	27.1	25.9	1.2	*4.4%*

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The labor force statistics indicate that the Helena economy is expanding with employment gains and concurrently the unemployment rate is dropping. The civilian labor force is running about 6-10% above last year's figures, at a September level of 27,100. Employment levels are showing even slightly better increases with September's calculation at 25,900. The figures are, of course, starting to decline in September but this is a seasonal expectation.

The number of unemployed people declined during the quarter from a July high of 1,600 to the September level of 1,200. The September figure is also 200 below last year's

calculation for the month. The jobless rate shows similar improvements and is at 4.4% for September. This is a considerable improvement over last September's 5.4% and July and August comparisions brought similar results. The employment outlook is good, with an expanding labor force and an even faster growing employed population.

New Business Formations

3rd Quarter		Year-to-Date	
1978	1977	1978	1977
100	94	323	290

Economic Highlights:

The third quarter was very conclusive to construction in the Helena area as many projects continued. The airport terminal neared completion and the new highway department complex was being occupied. The trade and service sector created projects such as a bank, a large grocery chain, and restaurants. Historical renovation projects are continuing downtown, and a major project to remodel the old federal building into a city-county facility should begin soon. Housing units are still underway but high interest rates seem to be slowing the market down.

The controversy over shopping center construction in Helena is continuing. Large mall developments, both in the city and outside, have been proposed and are tied up in governmental approval procedures. Proponents claim that market studies justify more retail expansion in Helena, but opponents argue that the traffic and environmental problems created merit more study,and possible development in the downtown area.

Government employment was effected by a "hiring freeze" imposed during the period on state government. Demand is still seen in many occupations particularly the clerical fields. The implications of the nationwide "tax revolt" may be assessed better in the decisions made on future budgets.

HELENA LMA (Cont.)

A bakery plant closed in Helena with a resultant layoff of 25 employees earning $250,000 annually. The cake plant was part of a regional firm recently purchased by a larger firm and did not meet the determined production standards.

KALISPELL LMA

The Kalispell Labor Market Area's economy is very dependent on its primary industry, lumber and wood products. Kalispell is the commercial center of the area with other substantial centers of population at Libby, Columbia Falls, Whitefish, and Polson. The scenic and recreational activities in the LMA also attract large numbers of people, some who decide to stay. The 1976 population of the three county area is estimated to be 79,200. The area is a rapidly growing one but is not without it's economic problems.

Kalispell Labor Force *(In Thousands)*

	Civilian Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
1977 Annual Average	31.5	28.4	3.2	*10.1%*
July 1978	38.4	35.4	3.0	*7.9%*
August 1978	37.9	35.3	2.6	*6.8%*
September 1978	37.1	34.7	2.4	*6.5%*

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The labor force in the Kalispell LMA is expanding rapidly. The civilian labor force of 37,100 in September was a 14.5% increase over last September's level. Employment shows similar gains over last year during the third quarter. The figures are, of course, starting to decline seasonally, but still show large gains over last year's statistics.

The number of unemployed persons dropped during the quarter and from last year. A count of 2,400 jobless people was made in September. The jobless rate also decreased

from 7.9% in July, to 6.8% in August, and 6.5% in September. The September rate is a considerable improvement over last September's 8.0%, however it should be noted that it is still high in comparison to the statewide rate of 4.7%. The labor force statistics are much better, but still not that good an indicator.

New Business Formations

3rd Quarter		Year-to-Date	
1978	1977	1978	1977
178	164	533	452

Economic Highlights:

New business firms are forming at an 18% faster clip this year than last in the Kalispell LMA. This figure indicates particularly rapid expansion in the retail and service sectors.

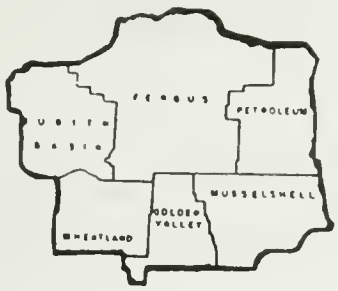
Agriculture had a good year in the area, with the harvests of cherries, apples, and potatoes going well. Christmas trees are becoming a big crop for the area and the harvest will start soon.

Construction of various forms took place throughout the Kalispell LMA. In Libby a courthouse addition is progressing well and a street project took place during the quarter. A project to construct a re-regulation dam at Libby Dam has been halted by a court injunction, but work continues on a fish hatchery. A new high school gymnasium is underway in Whitefish. Housing units and various commercial ventures are in building stages throughout the LMA.

The retail and service sectors noted a good year as far as the tourst trade was concerned. The winter trade at Whitefish is expected to exceed even its normal high rates, as some expansion has occurred at the ski area.

The dominant area industry, lumber and wood products, is currently at high levels of employment and production, but there may be clouds on the horizon. The recent rise in interest rates may slow construction with subsequent drops in the demand for wood products.

LEWISTOWN LMA



Lewistown is the prime retail and service center to its six county labor market area, with the dominant area industrial sector being agriculture. Harlowton serves a portion of the area and has some railroad employment, while Roundup also serves as a retail center for part of the LMA. The six county area has an estimated 1976 population of 24,300.

Lewistown Labor Force *(In Thousands)*

	Civilian Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
1977 Annual Average	10.5	9.9	.6	*5.5%*
July 1978	11.4	10.8	.6	*5.1%*
August 1978	11.3	10.9	.4	*3.9%*
September 1978	10.4	10.1	.3	*3.3%*

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

A slight decline in the labor force figures and a declining unemployment rate keynote the conditions in the Lewistown LMA economy. The civilian labor force for September was 10,400 which is a 5.5% drop from last September's figure. Employment is at 10,100 for September, 5% below last year's count, and a seasonal decline from July's 10,800 and August's 10,900.

The jobless rate dropped during the quarter from 5.1% in July to 3.3% in September. September is normally a low month but the figure is even below last September's 3.5% calculation. The number of unemployed persons is at 300 for September down from August's 400 and July's 600. The labor force statistics for the quarter indicate a slight contraction of the labor market but with a low unemployment rate.

New Business Formations

3rd Quarter		Year-to-Date	
1978	1977	1978	1977
29	31	88	87

Economic Highlights:

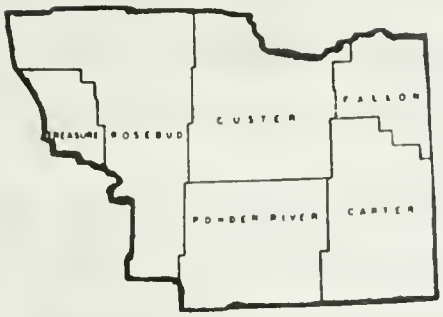
The agricultural harvests were completed during the quarter with reports of a good year for most crops. Some delays were experienced in shipping grain and elevators are full.

A major development affecting the LMA is the possible shutdown of the bankrupt trans-continental railroad that crosses the southern portion of the area. Harlowton is a center of employment for the line and a shutdown would seriously effect the town's economy. The line is also the most utilized means of transporting agricultural products from the area and its loss could make transportation cost prohibitive to some crops. Several ways of keeping the line running have been mentioned including employee ownership, federal loans, and sale to another party; but the future does not look bright for the line and consequently for the area.

Several construction projects were close to completion in the area including a bank, an addition to a motel, a quick service grocery store, and several homes. Most projects should be closed in before severe weather hits the area.

The construction project to update missile sites in the area was shutdown for most of the period but has now resumed. The project is in its final stages and should be completed by mid-winter or spring.

MILES CITY LMA



Six counties of Southeastern Montana make up the Miles City Labor Market Area. The area is agriculturally oriented with large portions of it devoted to the grazing of cattle and sheep. Sugar beets and grains are also significant crops in some parts of the LMA. The major commercial center of the area is Miles City. Recent energy developments have been felt in Rosebud and Powder River Counties from coal exploration and mining, and power plant construction. The area's estimated 1976 population is 32,400.

Miles City Labor Force *(In Thousands)*

	Civilian Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
1977 Annual Average	14.8	14.0	.7	*4.8%*
July 1978	15.7	15.0	.7	*4.5%*
August 1978	15.5	14.9	.6	*4.0%*
September 1978	14.8	14.2	.6	*3.8%*

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The Miles City labor force reached its seasonal peak in July and August, and September began to show decreases as the agriculture and construction seasons ended. The figures do seem to also show that the labor force has contracted slightly since last year. The civilian labor force of 14,800 in September is 2.2% lower than last year's September figure of 15,100. The level of employment is at 14,200 a 2.1% decrease since last September.

The jobless rate for the LMA was at 4.5%, 4.0%, and 3.8% for July, August, and September respectively. The number of unemployed persons has, however, been falling from 700 in July to 600 in September, the same as last September. The statistics show the stability of the area's economy as figures have varied little since last year.

New Business Formations

3rd Quarter		Year-to-Date	
1978	1977	1978	1977
44	39	118	108

Economic Highlights:

Construction continued to highlight the Miles City economy during the quarter. Major projects included the community college building, a shopping complex, and a street paving project. Business establishments and housing units also were being completed.

The bankruptcy of a transcontinental railroad and its possible shutdown would be felt in the area as 125-135 of the firm's employees are located in Miles City. Several scenerios have been presented to keep the line in operations and the future should bring more concrete developments. In another railroad report, but this one in a positive vein, an $800,000 rail care repair facility will be built in Miles City employing 45-50 individuals.

A major hailstorm hit the area during the quarter causing $3-4 million in damages. The storm did, however, in a parodox of sorts, aid the area's economy as the insurance claims paid out brought much repair work to certain businesses.

The agriculture sector completed a good harvest and field preparation began. The sugar beet harvest began during September with a good crop expected. Livestock prices held fairly stable during the period.

New businesses for the area are up slightly but no dramatic change was noticed. A new mini-mall facility opened in downtown Miles City. The outlook for the LMA is for a stable economy with some slight growth.

MISSOULA LMA

The dominant industry in the Missoula LMA is lumber and wood products, with both large and small firms in all facets of the industry located through the labor market area. Missoula is becoming a large trade and cultural center for Western Montana, with substantial

retail, wholesale, and service sectors and a large university. Agriculture is also important to the area especially in fast growing Ravalli County. The 1976 population of the four county area is 95,500.

Missoula Labor Market *(In Thousand)*

	Civilian Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
1977 Annual Average	44.4	40.8	3.6	*8.1%*
July 1978	53.5	49.9	3.6	*6.7%*
August 1978	52.3	49.2	3.1	*5.8%*
September 1978	52.2	49.5	2.7	*5.2%*

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The Missoula LMA civilian labor force is expanding rapidly as this September's 52,200 level is 13% above the 46,100 reported for September of 1977. The labor force did show slight seasonal drops from July to September but nothing abnormal. Employment levels are above last year's similar figures as the 49,500 noted for September is a 16% increase over last September. These figures indicate the strong growth occurring in the Missoula area.

The jobless rate for the LMA is lower than last year, but still high compared to the rest of the state. The September rate is 5.2% a considerable improvement from last September's 7.1%. July and August noted similar improvements over last year's rates. The number of unemployed is also falling and is 600 less than a year ago. A reported 2,700 people were out of work in September in the area. The statistics definately confirm the growth taking place in the Missoula area but the high unemployment rate hinders more optimism.

New Business Formations

3rd Quarter		Year-to-Date	
1978	1977	1978	1977
220	209	649	591

Economic Highlights:

New businesses are running about 10% above last year's figures as 649 new firms have been formed from January to September. The new firms are not limited to the Missoula

MISSOULA LMA (Cont.)

area proper, but also include good increases in the other counties, especially Ravalli.

Retail trade and service establishments continue to open throughout the area. A large regional shopping mall opened in Missoula during the quarter and an addition is already underway.

Construction was at its peak during the period as the rush to enclose buildings before bad weather commenced. Major projects in various stages of completion include the new airport terminal and an addition to the city hall. New housing units are underway but higher interest rates may be beginning to slow the market. Building permits have been decreasing both in value and number of units in recent months.

A labor dispute is lingering at an area hospital and no end appears to be in sight.

A plastics factory is being relocated to the Hamilton area from California. The firm is not yet in full operation and employment levels are not known.

SHELBY-CUT BANK LMA

Agriculture is the major industry in this rich, grain producing area of Northern Montana with the oil and gas sector and tourism as other major industries. No one large trade center exists with Shelby, Cut Bank, Browning, Conrad, Choteau, and Fort Benton serving their respective counties and with major trade going to Havre and Great Falls. The oil and gas producing areas should become even more important as the energy situation clarifies. The population of the five county labor market area was estimated at 35,500 in 1976.

Shelby-Cut Bank Labor Force *(In Thousands)*

	Civilian Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
1977 Annual Average	17.0	15.9	1.0	*6.1%*
July 1978	20.1	19.0	1.1	*5.6%*
August 1978	20.1	19.0	1.1	*5.5%*
September 1978	18.5	17.6	.9	*4.8%*

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The jobless rate for the Shelby-Cut Bank LMA is getting lower reaching a 4.8% rate in September after being at 5.5% in August and 5.6% in July. The number of unemployed persons has dropped by 200 in the past three months and is now at 900. The rate is slightly lower than last September's 5.1% but the change is due to an increase in the labor force as approximately the same number are unemployed as last September.

The civilian labor force has expanded a little and is now at 18,500 for September or 200 above last year's figure for the same month. The labor force figure peaked at 20,100 in both July and August as is normal but those levels were also somewhat higher than last year. Employment in September was at 17,600 up by about 1% from last September. The employment peak for the year was reached in July and August at a 19,000 level.

New Business Formations

3rd Quarter		Year-to-Date	
1978	1977	1978	1977
49	34	185	150

Economic Highlights:

Agriculture, the largest industry in the LMA, completed its harvest season with reports of above average yields in most areas. Some isolated hail damage hit the area in late summer. Other farming continued into the fall as good weather prevailed.

A 23% increase in new business formations was noted for the first nine months of 1978 in the LMA. The new firms are in all parts of the area, with Glacier County reporting a large increase.

Construction activity was widespread in the area as contractors strained to have buildings completed or enclosed before inclement weather hits. A civic center and a senior citizens facility are almost completed in Cut Bank, and a church in Shelby has most of the exterior done. Housing is also underway throughout the LMA, and a 16 store shopping

center should soon be started in Cut Bank.

Trade activity has been above normal for most of the year as retail establishments are doing well. Tourism in the area brought the seasonal peaks to the retail and service sectors.

Oil field activity, both exploration and otherwise, has continued with some demand for workers noted. The area is experiencing a severe shortage of all types of nurses in the medical sector.

Overall, this primarily agricultural LMA has noted a good year and with some diversification now coming to the economy the outlook for the future is optimistic.

SECTION IV

APPENDIX

Table I

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS[1/]

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	July 1978	Aug. 1978	Sept. 1977	July 1978	Aug. 1978	Sept. 1977	July 1978	Aug. 1978	Sept. 1977	July 1978	Aug. 1978	Sept. 1977
STATEWIDE	381.2	377.4	365.4	358.8	357.7	348.3	22.4	19.7	17.1	5.9	5.2	4.7
GREAT FALLS SMSA	35.1	34.2	33.5	32.7	32.0	31.4	2.4	2.2	2.1	6.9	6.5	6.3
BILLINGS SMSA	52.2	51.0	50.5	49.8	48.8	48.6	2.4	2.2	1.9	4.5	4.2	3.8
BALANCE OF STATE[2/]	293.9	292.2	281.4	276.3	276.9	268.3	17.6	15.3	13.1	6.0	5.3	4.6
ANACONDA-BUTTE	36.6	37.7	36.3	33.5	34.9	34.1	3.1	2.8	2.2	8.6	7.5	6.2
BOZEMAN	29.9	29.6	28.9	28.8	28.6	28.1	1.1	1.0	.8	3.7	3.3	3.0
GLASGOW	17.8	17.7	16.5	16.9	16.9	15.9	.9	.8	.6	5.2	4.3	3.7
GLENDIVE	15.5	15.4	14.5	15.0	15.0	14.2	.5	.4	.3	3.4	2.8	2.3
HARDIN-RED LODGE	13.1	13.7	12.3	12.5	13.1	11.9	.6	.6	.4	4.8	4.2	3.3
HAVRE	13.6	13.3	12.5	12.9	12.7	12.1	.7	.6	.4	5.2	4.7	3.6
HELENA	28.4	27.8	27.1	26.8	26.4	25.9	1.6	1.4	1.2	5.5	4.9	4.4
KALISPELL	38.4	37.9	37.1	35.4	35.3	34.7	3.0	2.6	2.4	7.9	6.8	6.5
LEWISTOWN	11.4	11.3	10.4	10.8	10.9	10.1	.6	.4	.3	5.1	3.9	3.3
MILES CITY	15.7	15.5	14.8	15.0	14.9	14.2	.7	.6	.6	4.5	4.0	3.8
MISSOULA	53.5	52.3	52.2	49.9	49.2	49.5	3.6	3.1	2.7	6.7	5.8	5.2
SHELBY-CUT BANK	20.1	20.1	18.5	19.0	19.0	17.6	1.1	1.1	.9	5.6	5.5	4.8

1/ A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on "New Business Firms" page. Map inside back cover.
2/ Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.
Totals may not add due to rounding.

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS[1/]

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Sept. 1978	Sept. 1977	Percent Change 1977-1978	Sept. 1978	Sept. 1977	Percent Change 1977-1978	Sept. 1978	Sept. 1977	Net Change 1977-1977	Sept. 1978	Sept. 1977	Net Change 1977-1978
STATEWIDE	365.4	355.7	2.7	348.3	336.3	3.6	17.1	19.4	-2.3	4.7	5.5	-.8
GREAT FALLS SMSA	33.5	35.6	-5.9	31.4	33.4	-6.0	2.1	2.2	-.1	6.3	6.2	.1
BILLINGS SMSA	50.5	53.9	-6.3	48.6	51.5	-5.6	1.9	2.4	-.5	3.8	4.4	-.6
BALANCE OF STATE[2/]	281.4	266.2	5.7	268.3	251.4	6.7	13.1	14.8	-1.7	4.6	5.6	-1.0
ANACONDA-BUTTE	36.3	34.6	4.9	34.1	32.3	5.6	2.2	2.3	-.1	6.2	6.7	-.5
BOZEMAN	28.9	24.5	18.0	28.1	23.5	19.6	.8	1.0	-.2	3.0	3.9	-.9
GLASGOW	16.5	17.7	-6.8	15.9	16.8	-5.4	.6	.9	-.3	3.7	4.9	-1.2
GLENDIVE	14.5	14.8	-2.0	14.2	14.4	-1.4	.3	.4	-.1	2.3	2.6	-.3
HAROIN-RED LODGE	12.3	12.4	-.8	11.9	11.8	.8	.4	.6	-.2	3.3	4.9	-1.6
HAVRE	12.5	13.4	-6.7	12.1	12.8	-5.5	.4	.6	-.2	3.6	4.3	-.7
HELENA	27.1	25.9	4.6	25.9	24.5	5.7	1.2	1.4	-.2	4.4	5.4	-1.0
KALISPELL	37.1	32.4	14.5	34.7	29.8	14.1	2.4	2.6	-.2	6.5	8.0	-1.5
LEWISTOWN	10.4	11.0	-5.5	10.1	10.6	-5.0	.3	.4	-.1	3.3	3.5	-.2
MILES CITY	14.8	15.1	-2.0	14.2	14.5	-2.1	.6	.6	0	3.8	3.7	.1
MISSOULA	52.2	46.1	13.2	49.5	42.8	15.7	2.7	3.3	-.6	5.2	7.1	-1.9
SHELBY-CUT BANK	18.5	18.3	1.1	17.6	17.4	1.1	.9	.9	0	4.8	5.1	-.3

1/ A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on "New Business Firms" page. Map inside back cover.
2/ Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.
Totals may not add due to rounding.

TABLE II

MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

JULY 1978

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	381238	358844	22394	5.9
CASCADE	35065	32657	2408	6.9
YELLOWSTONE	52141	49769	2372	4.5
BEAVERHEAD	4735	4510	225	4.8
BIG HORN	5454	5129	325	6.0
BLAINE	3207	2898	309	9.6
BROADWATER	1665	1584	81	4.9
CARBON	3765	3597	168	4.5
CARTER	1192	1101	91	7.6
CHOUTEAU	3347	3235	112	3.3
CUSTER	6187	5990	197	3.2
DANIELS	1596	1550	46	2.9
DAWSON	5913	5641	272	4.6
DEER LODGE	6548	5927	621	9.5
FALLON	2303	2215	88	3.8
FERGUS	5660	5415	245	4.3
FLATHEAD	22431	20716	1715	7.6
GALLATIN	22341	21539	802	3.6
GARFIELD	1007	975	32	3.2
GLACIER	6918	6219	699	10.1
GOLDEN VALLEY	508	496	12	2.4
GRANITE	1384	1263	121	8.7
HILL	9142	8790	352	3.8
JEFFERSON	2447	2246	197	8.1
JUDITH BASIN	1519	1355	164	10.8
LAKE	8623	8113	510	5.9
LEWIS AND CLARK	24291	22999	1292	5.3
LIBERTY	1236	1189	47	3.8
LINCOLN	7315	6525	790	10.8
MC CONE	1510	1470	40	2.6
MADISON	3157	3055	102	3.2
MEAGHER	1158	1124	34	2.9
MINERAL	1883	1762	121	6.4
MISSOULA	39973	36526	2447	6.3
MUSSELSHELL	1800	1736	64	3.6
PARK	6429	6150	279	4.3
PETROLEUM	359	353	6	1.7
PHILLIPS	2973	2859	114	3.8
PONDERA	3784	3658	126	3.3
POWDER RIVER	1264	1231	33	2.6
POWELL	3841	3628	213	5.5
PRAIRIE	1045	1031	14	1.3
RAVALLI	8327	7640	683	8.2
RICHLAND	5281	5138	143	2.7
ROOSEVELT	5247	4864	383	7.3
ROSEBUD	4218	3934	284	6.7
SANDERS	4296	3980	316	7.4
SHERIDAN	2778	2720	58	2.1
SILVER BOW	16938	15074	1864	11.0
STILLWATER	2040	1960	80	3.9
SWEET GRASS	1883	1819	64	3.4
TETON	3057	2973	84	2.7
TOOLE	2981	2887	94	3.2
TREASURE	569	551	18	3.2
VALLEY	5187	4864	323	6.2
WHEATLAND	1517	1427	90	5.9
WIBAUX	811	787	24	3.0

TABLE II

MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA
AUGUST 1978

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	380716	360932	19784	5.2
CASCADE	34666	32458	2208	6.4
YELLOWSTONE	51269	49090	2179	4.3
BEAVERHEAD	4805	4661	144	3.0
BIG HORN	5667	5362	305	5.4
BLAINE	3146	2890	256	8.1
BROADWATER	1651	1583	68	4.1
CARBON	4169	4007	162	3.9
CARTER	1219	1130	89	7.3
CHOUTEAU	3399	3274	125	3.7
CUSTER	6106	5937	169	2.8
DANIELS	1614	1570	44	2.7
DAWSON	5770	5576	194	3.4
DEER LODGE	6497	5960	537	8.3
FALLON	2287	2230	57	2.5
FERGUS	5702	5512	190	3.3
FLATHEAD	22098	20642	1456	6.6
GALLATIN	22120	21405	715	3.2
GARFIELD	1033	997	36	3.5
GLACIER	6956	6247	709	10.2
GOLDEN VALLEY	517	504	13	2.5
GRANITE	1449	1327	122	8.4
HILL	8996	8678	318	3.5
JEFFERSON	2387	2212	175	7.3
JUDITH BASIN	1537	1389	148	9.6
LAKE	8847	8387	460	5.2
LEWIS AND CLARK	24010	22877	1133	4.7
LIBERTY	1256	1203	53	4.2
LINCOLN	7218	6545	673	9.3
MC CONE	1540	1503	37	2.4
MADISON	3175	3097	78	2.5
MEAGHER	1207	1179	28	2.3
MINERAL	1813	1683	130	7.2
MISSOULA	38291	36203	2088	5.5
MUSSELSHELL	1804	1752	52	2.9
PARK	6499	6276	223	3.4
PETROLEUM	370	364	6	1.6
PHILLIPS	3036	2936	100	3.3
PONDERA	3816	3701	115	3.0
POWDER RIVER	1305	1268	37	2.8
POWELL	3835	3627	209	5.4
PRAIRIE	1041	1027	14	1.3
RAVALLI	8349	7728	621	7.4
RICHLAND	5375	5259	116	2.2
ROOSEVELT	5156	4911	245	4.8
ROSEBUD	4247	3985	262	6.2
SANDERS	4270	4059	211	4.9
SHERIDAN	2782	2735	47	1.7
SILVER BOW	18235	16488	1747	9.6
STILLWATER	2070	1997	73	3.5
SWEET GRASS	1902	1873	29	1.5
TETON	3115	3036	79	2.5
TOOLE	3011	2919	92	3.1
TREASURE	537	520	17	3.2
VALLEY	5233	4913	320	6.1
WHEATLAND	1473	1437	36	2.4
WIBAUX	838	803	35	4.2

TABLE II

MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA SEPTEMBER 1978

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	365353	348298	17055	4.7
CASCADE	33547	31432	2115	6.3
YELLOWSTONE	50477	48554	1923	3.8
BEAVERHEAD	4473	4353	120	2.7
BIG HORN	5332	5084	248	4.7
BLAINE	2873	2681	192	6.7
BROADWATER	1544	1491	53	3.4
CARBON	3437	3347	90	2.6
CARTER	1062	999	63	5.9
CHOUTEAU	3005	2922	83	2.8
CUSTER	5944	5790	154	2.6
DANIELS	1470	1445	25	1.7
DAWSON	5533	5351	181	3.3
DEER LODGE	6214	5749	465	7.5
FALLON	2064	2011	53	2.6
FERGUS	5244	5096	148	2.8
FLATHEAD	21529	20175	1354	6.3
GALLATIN	21607	21001	606	2.8
GARFIELD	851	834	17	2.0
GLACIER	6455	5889	566	8.8
GOLDEN VALLEY	447	437	10	2.2
GRANITE	1449	1372	77	5.3
HILL	8552	8319	233	2.7
JEFFERSON	2354	2178	176	7.5
JUDITH BASIN	1310	1200	110	8.4
LAKE	8279	7837	442	5.3
LEWIS AND CLARK	23218	22259	959	4.1
LIBERTY	1099	1069	30	2.7
LINCOLN	7319	6699	620	8.5
MC CONE	1392	1368	24	1.7
MADISON	2724	2660	64	2.3
MEAGHER	1076	1050	26	2.4
MINERAL	1664	1574	90	5.4
MISSOULA	38695	36753	1942	5.0
MUSSELSHELL	1714	1664	50	2.9
PARK	6245	6021	224	3.6
PETROLEUM	315	312	3	1.0
PHILLIPS	2793	2661	132	4.7
PONDERA	3479	3381	98	2.8
POWDER RIVER	1122	1095	27	2.4
POWELL	3719	3565	154	4.1
PRAIRIE	1002	994	8	.8
RAVALLI	7855	7377	478	6.1
RICHLAND	5088	4996	92	1.8
ROOSEVELT	4905	4718	187	3.8
ROSEBUD	4108	3861	247	6.0
SANDERS	3977	3766	211	5.3
SHERIDAN	2569	2528	41	1.6
SILVER BOW	17734	16373	1361	7.7
STILLWATER	1867	1818	49	2.6
SWEET GRASS	1699	1682	17	1.0
TETON	2826	2745	81	2.9
TOOLE	2743	2681	62	2.3
TREASURE	475	462	13	2.7
VALLEY	4811	4584	227	4.7
WHEATLAND	1359	1339	20	1.5
WIBAUX	710	696	14	2.0

Table II

1977 ANNUAL AVERAGES
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	343000	321000	22000	6.4
CASCADE	34800	32717	2083	6.0
YELLOWSTONE	52425	50026	2399	4.6
BEAVERHEAD	4298	4133	165	3.8
BIG HORN	4416	4067	349	7.9
BLAINE	2990	2809	181	6.1
BROADWATER	1366	1289	77	5.6
CARBON	3389	3205	184	5.4
CARTER	926	898	28	3.0
CHOUTEAU	3175	3066	109	3.4
CUSTER	5526	5247	279	5.0
DANIELS	1433	1389	44	3.1
DAWSON	5032	4795	237	4.7
DEER LODGE	6155	5620	535	8.7
FALLON	2090	2037	53	2.5
FERGUS	5293	4981	312	5.9
FLATHEAD	18506	16703	1803	9.7
GALLATIN	17757	16864	893	5.0
GARFIELD	905	875	30	3.3
GLACIER	4982	4527	455	9.1
GOLDEN VALLEY	459	433	26	5.7
GRANITE	1068	965	103	9.6
HILL	8663	8223	440	5.1
JEFFERSON	2856	2644	212	7.4
JUDITH BASIN	1248	1202	46	3.7
LAKE	6692	6166	526	7.9
LEWIS AND CLARK	20656	19517	1139	5.5
LIBERTY	1138	1103	35	3.1
LINCOLN	6351	5483	868	13.7
MC CONE	1479	1433	46	3.1
MADISON	2366	2238	128	5.4
MEAGHER	843	790	53	6.3
MINERAL	1562	1381	181	11.6
MISSOULA	32059	29697	2362	7.4
MUSSELSHELL	1810	1673	137	7.6
PARK	5220	4834	386	7.4
PETROLEUM	332	325	7	2.1
PHILLIPS	2667	2523	144	5.4
PONDERA	3496	3309	187	5.3
POWDER RIVER	1108	1072	36	3.2
POWELL	3100	2873	227	7.3
PRAIRIE	1008	979	29	2.9
RAVALLI	6481	5757	724	11.2
RICHLAND	4908	4732	176	3.6
ROOSEVELT	5601	5297	304	5.4
ROSEBUD	4577	4291	286	6.2
SANDERS	4329	3975	354	8.2
SHERIDAN	2432	2360	72	3.0
SILVER BOW	16592	15003	1589	9.6
STILLWATER	2453	2352	101	4.1
SWEET GRASS	1524	1479	45	3.0
TETON	2619	2467	132	5.0
TOOLE	2684	2535	149	5.6
TREASURE	523	496	27	5.2
VALLEY	4681	4244	437	9.3
WHEATLAND	1319	1267	52	3.9
WIBAUX	637	616	21	3.3

Table III

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA BY LABOR MARKET AREA

Third Quarter 1978

Areas	New Business Firms: Quarter Total 1978	Quarter Total 1977	Year-To-Date 1978	Year-To-Date 1977
STATE OF MONTANA	1,384	1,236	4,153	3,692
GREAT FALLS SMSA (Cascade County)	102	240	356	409
BILLINGS SMSA (Yellowstone County)	237	216	670	573
ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA	104	70	292	256
Beaverhead	18	12	49	34
Deer Lodge	12	14	23	29
Granite	4	1	11	6
Madison	8	6	33	27
Powell	13	5	31	18
Silver Bow	49	32	145	142
BOZEMAN LMA	152	103	436	342
Gallatin	125	86	353	270
Meagher	4	2	14	5
Park	23	15	69	67
GLASGOW LMA	46	36	106	104
Daniels	0	7	3	10
Phillips	4	9	12	16
Roosevelt	14	2	36	21
Sheridan	11	6	21	20
Valley	17	12	34	37
GLENDIVE LMA	54	43	164	127
Dawson	15	11	44	36
Garfield	0	3	8	6
McCone	2	4	6	9
Prairie	0	3	7	13
Richland	37	22	96	2
Wibaux	0	0	3	2
HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA	27	26	112	83
Big Horn	9	14	35	28
Carbon	8	7	36	28
Stillwater	7	4	23	19
Sweet Grass	3	1	18	8
HARVRE LMA	42	33	121	120
Blaine	7	5	23	16
Hill	33	28	81	81
Liberty	2	0	17	23

Table III

Area	Quarter Total 1978	Quarter Total 1977	Year-To-Date 1978	Year-To-Date 1977
HELENA LMA	100	94	323	290
Broadwater	3	6	13	17
Jefferson	13	8	39	17
Lewis & Clark	84	84	271	256
KALISPELL LMA	178	164	533	452
Flathead	114	108	366	309
Lake	37	31	91	81
Lincoln	27	25	76	62
LEWISTOWN LMA	29	31	88	87
Fergus	17	23	56	61
Golden Valley	0	1	2	3
Judith Basin	4	2	7	6
Musselshell	6	4	15	14
Petroleum	0	0	2	0
Wheatland	2	1	6	3
MILES CITY LMA	44	39	118	108
Carter	1	2	7	7
Custer	21	18	52	60
Fallon	4	5	14	9
Powder River	12	2	16	4
Rosebud	5	11	27	24
Treasure	1	1	2	4
MISSOULA LMA	220	209	649	591
Mineral	5	6	15	12
Missoula	148	152	471	440
Ravalli	50	36	120	97
Sanders	17	15	43	42
SHELBY - CUT BANK LMA	49	34	185	150
Chauteau	3	1	22	12
Glacier	19	11	51	34
Pondera	8	6	43	42
Teton	8	4	23	13
Toole	11	12	46	49

Table IV

MONTANA

U. S. Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration

ANNUAL STATEWIDE LABOR FORCE REPORT FOR 1977

JUNE 1978

(In Thousands)

INDUSTRY	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC	AVERAGE 1977
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1/]	316.7	320.3	328.4	336.5	340.4	356.1	364.4	371.4	355.7	346.0	342.1	337.9	343.0
EMPLOYED PERSONS	291.7	294.9	303.0	313.9	319.8	333.6	342.4	350.2	336.3	327.2	321.1	317.1	321.0
Persons Employed in Agriculture	22.6	24.8	29.9	37.0	38.2	43.5	46.5	49.8	38.8	33.0	28.4	24.4	34.7
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	25.0	25.4	25.4	22.6	20.6	22.5	22.0	21.2	19.4	18.8	20.4	20.8	22.0
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2/]	7.9	7.9	7.7	6.7	6.1	6.3	6.0	5.7	5.5	5.4	6.0	6.1	6.4
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2/]	6.3	6.5	6.6	6.6	6.8	6.2	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.3	6.1	5.9	6.4
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)[3/]	248.5	248.3	251.0	256.0	259.8	267.8	269.5	276.9	278.5	271.9	271.2	269.7	263.7
MANUFACTURING	23.9	24.0	23.6	24.0	24.1	24.7	24.1	24.6	24.7	24.4	24.3	23.7	24.2
Durable Goods	15.1	15.3	15.1	15.2	15.7	16.0	15.5	16.0	16.0	15.8	15.6	15.0	15.5
24 Lumber and Wood Products	9.1	9.2	8.8	8.9	9.1	9.5	10.0	9.8	9.4	9.3	9.2	9.2	9.3
33 Primary Metal Industries	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.0	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3
Other Durable Goods	2.7	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.2	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.1	2.5	3.0
Nondurable Goods	8.8	8.7	8.5	8.7	8.4	8.7	8.6	8.6	8.7	8.6	8.7	8.7	8.7
20 Food and Kindred Products	4.2	4.1	3.8	4.0	3.6	3.9	4.0	4.1	3.9	3.9	4.1	4.1	4.0
27 Printing and Publishing	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
29 Petroleum and Coal Products	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.1
Other Nondurable Goods	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5
MINING	6.0	5.9	5.8	6.1	6.3	6.4	4.9	6.1	6.1	6.3	6.3	6.6	6.1
10 Metal Mining	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.1	.7	2.0	1.9	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.0
12 & 14 Bitum. Coal, Quarrying, Non-Metal Mining	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.7	1.5
13 Oil and Gas Extraction	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.4	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.6
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	10.8	11.5	12.5	14.7	15.5	16.4	17.7	18.5	18.6	18.1	17.9	15.3	15.6
15 General Building Contractors	3.8	4.0	4.2	5.2	5.8	6.2	6.6	6.8	6.7	6.4	6.4	6.1	5.7
16 Heavy Construction Contractors	2.5	2.3	3.5	4.6	4.9	5.1	5.6	5.8	5.8	5.6	5.5	3.4	4.6
17 Special Trade Contractors	4.6	4.8	4.8	4.9	5.0	5.1	5.5	5.9	6.1	6.0	6.0	5.8	5.3
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	19.6	19.6	19.6	19.9	20.0	20.3	20.7	20.7	20.6	20.4	20.4	20.7	20.2
40 Railroad Transportation	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.4	6.3
41-47 Transportation, except Railroad	5.8	5.9	5.9	6.1	6.2	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.2	6.2	6.1
48 & 49 Comun., Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.6	8.0	8.2	8.2	8.0	8.0	7.9	8.1	7.8
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	61.8	61.6	62.9	64.2	66.0	67.6	68.8	69.6	69.4	67.9	68.0	67.9	66.3
Wholesale Trade	14.9	14.9	15.1	15.4	15.7	15.9	16.0	16.2	16.6	16.5	16.5	16.5	15.9
Retail Trade	46.9	46.7	47.6	48.8	50.3	51.7	52.8	53.3	52.8	51.4	51.2	51.4	50.4
53 & 56 General Merchandise, Apparel, Accessories	7.8	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.8	8.3	8.2	8.1	8.3	8.2	8.1	8.9	8.1
54 Food Stores	6.6	6.6	6.8	6.8	7.0	7.1	7.3	7.3	7.2	7.1	7.1	7.2	7.0
55 Automotive Dealers, Service Stations	6.0	7.9	8.0	8.0	8.1	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.5	7.5	7.4	7.8
58 Eating and Drinking Places	15.3	15.5	16.3	17.2	18.3	19.1	20.3	20.9	20.4	19.3	19.0	18.7	18.3
52, 57, 59 Bldg. Mat., Farm Equip., Furn., Misc.	9.2	9.2	9.2	9.1	9.1	9.3	9.1	9.2	9.2	9.2	9.1	9.1	9.2
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	10.9	10.9	10.9	11.0	11.1	11.3	11.5	11.6	11.9	11.9	12.0	12.0	11.4
SERVICES	46.1	46.6	47.1	47.6	48.2	50.2	51.3	51.1	51.3	51.1	50.3	50.3	49.3
70 Hotels and other Lodging Places	5.1	5.2	5.3	5.4	5.6	6.6	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.0	7.2	6.4
72 Personal Services	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.5
80 Medical and other Health Services	14.9	14.9	15.0	15.2	15.3	16.0	15.8	15.1	16.1	16.1	15.9	16.0	15.6
Other Services	23.7	24.1	24.4	24.6	24.8	25.1	25.4	25.0	25.2	25.0	24.7	24.5	24.8
GOVERNMENT	67.4	68.2	68.8	68.5	68.7	70.8	70.5	74.3	77.8	71.[illegible]	70.1	73.2	70.6
91 Federal Government	13.1	13.1	13.1	13.1	13.4	14.7	15.6	15.6	14.9	14.1	14.0	14.5	14.1
92 State Colleges and Universities	9.1	9.2	9.1	9.1	6.6	4.5	6.4	8.0	8.9	9.0	9.0	9.0	7.9
92 Other State Government	10.9	10.9	11.0	11.1	11.[illegible]	11.[illegible]	11.[illegible]	11.8	11.5	11.[illegible]	10.[illegible]	11.3	11.1
93 Local Education	21.8	22.5	22.8	22.4	22.[illegible]	21.8	20.2	22.8	23.7	23.[illegible]	23.0	24.0	22.2
93 Other Local Government	12.5	12.5	12.6	12.[illegible]	12.[illegible]	14.6	14.6	15.2	15.9	13.[illegible]	13.7	13.5	13.6

1/ Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships, includes nonagricultural self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.
2/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. Produced in cooperation with the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, by Research and Analysis, Employment Security Division, Helena, Montana.
3/ 1972 Standard Industrial Classification. Revised to 1977 Benchmarks.

Table IV

GREAT FALLS STANDARD METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA
(Cascade County, Montana)

1977 ANNUAL LABOR FORCE REPORT *(In Thousands)*

	1977 JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	1977 AVG.
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1/]	31.8	32.9	33.5	34.5	34.7	36.0	35.8	36.4	35.6	36.0	35.4	35.0	34.8
EMPLOYED PERSONS	29.7	30.9	31.3	32.6	32.8	33.9	33.8	34.2	33.4	33.8	33.4	32.8	32.7
Persons Employed in Agriculture	.9	1.0	1.2	1.5	1.5	1.7	1.8	2.0	1.5	1.3	1.1	1.0	1.4
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	2.1	2.0	2.2	1.9	1.9	2.1	2.0	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.0	2.2	2.1
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2/]	6.6	6.1	6.5	5.4	5.5	5.9	5.6	6.1	6.2	6.1	5.7	6.2	6.0
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2/]	5.8	5.5	5.9	5.7	6.1	5.1	5.6	6.5	7.0	6.5	5.9	6.2	6.0
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS[3/]													
(Establishment Data)	27.5	27.9	28.4	29.1	29.6	30.5	29.6	30.2	30.6	30.5	30.3	30.0	29.6
Manufacturing	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.3	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.7
Contract Construction	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.1	1.8	2.0
Transportation and Public Utilities	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.8
Wholesale and Retail Trade	8.7	8.7	8.8	9.4	9.7	9.9	10.1	10.1	10.2	10.1	10.2	10.2	9.7
Wholesale Trade	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.7
Retail Trade	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.7	6.9	7.2	7.3	7.4	7.4	7.3	7.4	7.3	7.0
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9
Services and Mining	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.5	6.5	6.7	6.5	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.4
Government	5.9	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.2	6.5	5.8	5.8	6.2	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.1
Federal Government	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
State and Local Government	3.9	4.0	4.1	4.0	4.0	4.3	3.6	3.6	4.0	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.0

BILLINGS STANDARD METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA
(Yellowstone County, Montana)

	1977 JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEP.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	1977 AVG.
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1/]	48.9	50.6	51.2	52.1	52.0	52.7	53.1	54.3	53.9	53.6	53.8	52.9	52.4
EMPLOYED PERSONS	46.3	47.8	48.5	49.8	49.7	50.4	50.9	51.9	51.5	51.3	51.5	50.6	50.0
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.0	1.1	1.4	1.7	1.8	2.0	2.1	2.3	1.8	1.5	1.3	1.1	1.6
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	2.6	2.8	2.7	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.4
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2/]	5.4	5.5	5.2	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.1	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.6
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2/]	4.5	4.7	4.5	4.5	5.4	3.8	4.0	4.8	4.9	4.9	4.6	4.3	4.6
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOB[3/]													
Establishment Data	40.5	40.9	41.6	42.3	42.6	43.0	43.4	43.7	44.9	44.8	44.7	44.2	43.1
Manufacturing	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.3	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.9	3.7	3.7	3.6
Contract Construction	2.1	2.1	2.3	2.8	2.8	2.8	3.0	3.1	3.3	3.4	3.3	2.7	2.8
Transportation and Public Utilities	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.9	3.8	3.7
Wholesale and Retail Trade	13.2	13.2	13.6	13.8	13.8	14.1	14.0	14.5	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.1	14.2
Wholesale Trade	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.7	4.6	5.1	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.0
Retail Trade	8.6	8.6	8.9	9.1	9.2	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.6	9.2
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.0
Services and Mining	7.9	8.1	8.1	8.2	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.3	8.4	8.5	8.4	8.4	8.3
Government	8.2	8.5	8.6	8.4	8.5	8.6	8.6	8.3	8.8	8.2	8.3	8.4	8.5
Federal Government	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.8
State and Local Government	6.4	6.6	6.7	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.3	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.9	6.7

1/ Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.
2/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. Revised to 1977 Benchmarks.
3/ 1972 Standard Industrial Classification.
Produced in cooperation with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, by Research and Analysis, Employment Security Division, Helena, Montana.

TABLE V

MONTANA

UNEMPLOYED PERSONS BY INDUSTRY OF LAST JOB AND RACE
1977 Annual Averages
(In Thousands)

	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE
... TOTAL ...	22	21	1
Agriculture	1	1	0
Wage & Salary	1	1	0
Self Employed	0	0	0
Unpaid Family	0	0	0
Non-Ag Wage & Salary	18	17	1
Private Households	0	0	0
Government	3	3	0
Other Private	14	14	0
Mining	0	0	0
Construction	3	3	0
Manufacturing	1	1	0
Durable	1	1	0
Nondurable	0	0	0
Transportation & Public Utilities	1	1	0
Trade	6	6	0
Wholesale	1	1	0
Retail	6	6	0
Finance & Services	3	3	0
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	0	0	0
Services	3	3	0
Business & Repair	1	1	0
Personal, Except Private Household	1	1	0
Entertainment/Recreation	0	0	0
Medical & Hospital	1	1	0
Other Professional Services	0	0	0
Self Employed	1	1	0
Unpaid Family	0	0	0
Inexperienced Unemployed	3	3	0

Items may not add due to rounding.

TABLE VI

MONTANA

REASONS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT

1977 Annual Averages
(In Thousands)

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT		22
TOTAL JOB LOSERS		8
TOTAL ON LAYOFF		2
Temporary	0	
Indefinite	2	
ALL OTHER		6
JOB LEAVERS		3
TOTAL ENTRANTS		10
SEEK TEMPORARY WORK	3	
LEFT SCHOOL	3	
ALL OTHER	3	
REENTRANTS TOTAL		7
Within Last 5 Years	7	
6 or More Years	0	
NEW ENTRANTS TOTAL		3
Never Worked Full-Time	2	
Never Worked	1	

Items may not add due to rounding.

LABOR MARKET AREAS IN MONTANA